



Revitalizing Local Economies and Improving Quality of Life

New Bedford, Massachusetts

Brownfields are abandoned, idle, or under-used industrial or commercial sites where contamination complicates redevelopment. Thousands of Brownfields sites remain where industries were historically located along waterways. Cleaning up and redeveloping coastal Brownfields expands local economies, improves public access to the coast, restores coastal natural resources, and revitalizes waterfronts.



New Bedford Brownfields Showcase Community

NOAA has a history of working collaboratively in New Bedford. Beginning with the New Bedford Harbor Superfund site, we've delivered environmental solutions to contaminant problems in New Bedford since the late 1980s. NOAA programs are still helping to restore New Bedford Harbor.

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NOAA funds a New Bedford Brownfields coordinator position to work with the New Bedford Brownfields Task Force for two years. We want to demonstrate the benefits of working together to revitalize Brownfields sites.

NOAA's role as the primary coastal stewardship agency and a leader in promoting safe navigation allows us to deliver a unique

suite of tools and expertise to revitalize urban estuaries and port areas while improving coastal habitat.

The NOAA Brownfields coordinator works with the New Bedford Brownfields Task Force to:

- assess and safely clean up coastal contamination to revitalize New Bedford's environment and economy;
- promote the compatible and sustainable use of coastal areas for New Bedford urban fisheries, port and industrial activities, recreation, and tourism;
- give New Bedford access to Department of Commerce and other federal programs that fund economic redevelopment and training programs; and
- train New Bedford communities and local and state agencies to assess, clean up, and redevelop Brownfields; plan and implement environmental restoration; and use decision-making software tools.

What NOAA Brings to the Table

With our coastal focus and experience in solving critical environmental challenges, combined with our position within the Department of Commerce, NOAA balances environmental and economic needs.

- NOAA expertise improves cleanup and redevelopment and expedites decision-making.
- NOAA benefits local economies and improves quality of life in coastal communities by applying sustainable and economic development programs.
- NOAA sponsors local workshops focusing on Brownfields revitalization. These workshops help communities gather input from all parties involved in the revitalization process, creating strong partnerships for more efficient action.

- NOAA rebuilds community waterfronts and redevelops Brownfields sites through its strong partnerships with coastal states' coastal zone management programs.
- NOAA's advanced marine transportation tools and services will revitalize the Port of New Bedford.

NOAA's partnership with the City of New Bedford and other agencies will improve quality of life, the environment, and the regional economy.



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